

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (amended) A composition free of whole *Eimeria* parasites, which comprises one or more proteins, or fragments or variants thereof[;], wherein said proteins:

(a) are present in the hydrophilic phase of a Triton X-114 extract of *Eimeria* sporozoites; and

(b) have molecular masses of 26-30 kDa  $\pm$  5 kDa[(i.e. 21-35 kDa)] when determined by SDS-PAGE under reducing conditions.

Claim 2, line 1, after "1", insert -- , --.

Claim 3, line 1, delete "or claim 2;" and insert -- , -- therefor.

4. (amended) A composition according to [any preceding claim] claim 1, wherein a plurality [(e.g. two or three)] of said proteins, or fragments or variants thereof, are present.

5. (amended) A composition according to [any of claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein only one of said proteins, or fragments or variants thereof, is present[, e.g. in substantially pure form].

6. (amended) [A] An isolated nucleic acid molecule, which:

a) encodes a protein, or variant or fragment thereof, as described in [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 1,

b) is complementary to a nucleic acid molecule as described in a), or

c) hybridises to a nucleic acid molecule as described in a) or b).

Claim 7, line 1, delete "isolated or".

Claim 8, line 1, delete "or claim 7".

9. (amended) A non-avian host comprising a vector according to claim 8 [or a nucleic acid according to claim 6 or claim 7].

10. (amended) A vector according to claim 8 [or a host according to claim 9], which is adapted to express [a] the protein, or variant or fragment thereof, [as described in any of claims 1 to 5] of claim 1.

A4  
11. (amended) A [pharmaceutically acceptable] vaccine composition comprising a vector [or host] according to claim 10 [(whether in live, killed or attenuated form)] and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

12. (amended) A [pharmaceutically acceptable] vaccine composition [according to any of claims 1 to 5 in the form of a vaccine] , comprising the composition according to claim 1 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

13. (amended) A vaccine composition according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said vaccine comprises an adjuvant.

Claim 14, line 1, delete "12" and insert -- 13, -- therefor.

A5  
15. (amended) A vaccine composition according to [any of claims 12 to 14] claim 12, which is in unit dosage form.

Please cancel claims 16 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

A6  
18. (amended) An antibody or a derivative thereof that binds with a protein, or variant or fragment thereof, as [described] recited in [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 1.

Sub B4  
19. (amended) An immunological reagent, comprising a protein, or variant or fragment thereof, as described in [any of claims 1 to 5] claim 1, which is bound to a support or provided with a detectable label.

Please cancel claim 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

A7  
21. (amended) A test kit for the diagnosis of *Eimeria* infection, comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 6 [or claim 7; an antibody or derivative thereof according to claim 18; or an immunological reagent according to claim 19 or 20].

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A8  
{ Please add the following new claims: }

-- 22. A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 7. --

-- 23. A non-avian host comprising a vector according to claim 22. --

-- 24. A non-avian host comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 6. --

-- 25. A non-avian host comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 7. --

-- 26. A host according to claim 9, which is adapted to express the protein, or variant or fragment thereof, of claim 1. --

Sub E3  
-- 27. A vaccine composition according to claim 13, which is in unit dosage form. ---